Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification by replacing the current title on page 1 with the following:

SATELLITE TELEVISION NETWORK AND NEAR REAL-TIME METHOD FOR DOWNLOADING AND VERIFYING A SUBSCRIBER REMOTE RECORD REQUEST

Please replace paragraph [0004] with the following amended paragraph:

Satellite television programming has become widely available and has become a popular alternative to analog broadcast and cable services. Service providers such as DIRECTV® and EchoStar Communications Corp. under trademark DISH NETWORK (Dish Network™) provide a wide variety of programming. The basic architecture for a satellite television network 10 is illustrated in Figure 1.

Please replace paragraph [0010] with the following amended paragraph:

Subscriber site **16** includes a dish **40** where a low noise block downconverter amplifies the satellite signal and converts it to a lower frequency. This signal is then sent from the dish to the subscribers integrated receiver decoder (IRD) **42** where the individual transport packets are extracted from the RF signal. The IRD then routes the video and audio packets **22** to the audio and video decoders, the MPT packets **36** to the appropriate devices, and the CA packet **30** to a conditional access module (CAM) **44**. The CAM determines if the subscriber is authorized to watch the program, and if they are, sends an authorization to decode the audio and video packets and direct them to a television **46** for viewing and/or a recording device **48** such as a VCR or digital video recorder (DVR) that provides many other interactive television recording features and services under trademarks TIVO and REPLAYTV such as Tivo® or ReplayTV®.

Please replace paragraph [0013] with the following amended paragraph:

Television related products and services are available that greatly enhance the flexibility and capability of a standard video tape recorder (VTR) or DVR in conjunction with off air, cable or satellite broadcast programming. Tivo, Inc. offers subscription programming

features under trademarks SEASON PASS and WISH LIST and Smart Recording features ~~such as Season Pass™, Wish List™ and Smart Recording™~~ that record every episode of a selected program even if scheduling changes, find and record programming based on preferences and suggest programming based on viewing habits. Sonic Blue offers television recording services under trademark REPLAYTV ~~ReplayTV®~~ with features ~~such as Commercial Advance™~~ that seamlessly removes all commercials from programming under trademark COMMERCIAL ADVANCE and ~~MyReplayTV™~~ features which allows a user, whether you are at work or on vacation, if you can get online, you can setup recordings, view your personal Channel Guide or Find Shows under trademark MYREPLAYTV. The record requests are downloaded once daily during the nightly "call back" that is made for billing purposes via a public phone line.

Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following amended paragraph:

The IRD then sends a verification response to the subscriber via a back channel. The packet contains a setting that allows the IRD to call out through a phone line, DSL or cable modem via the IRD's modem or other communication port, e.g. USB or <u>a connector under trademark FIREWIRE</u> ~~Firewire®~~, to a subscriber utility or web site. The verification response confirms that the request has been successfully received or informs the subscriber that the request was denied or failed. In the latter case, the subscriber may be provided the opportunity to resolve a programming conflict, sign up for the requested service, increase a billing limit or change a rating limitation.

Please replace paragraph [0032] with the following amended paragraph:

The specific sequence of steps involved in initiating, delivering, validating and verifying a remote record request are illustrated by way of a specific illustrative example in figures 3a and 3b with reference to figures 4 through 6. In this example, the subscriber has left home and forgot to set the DVR to record the ~~Wimbledon®~~ tennis finals <u>under trademark WIMBLEDON</u> as he had promised his wife and daughter. Our subscriber is standing on the 4th tee of his favorite golf course when he realizes he forgot to set the DVR and the match starts in only 30 minutes. Unbeknownst to our subscriber, ~~Wimbledon®~~ <u>the</u> tennis <u>under trademark WIMBLEDON</u> is now carried on a pay-per-view tennis channel outside his standard subscription, his older son has already programmed the DVR to record a conflicting program and the DVR hard disk is almost full.

Please replace paragraph [0034] with the following amended paragraph:

The subscriber works his way through the screens of the program guide to the ~~Wimbledon®~~ tennis program under trademark WIMBLEDON as shown in figure 4b, selects the program, selects record program once or all occurrences, and hits send (step **80**). Feeling relieved, the subscriber turns his wireless PDA to vibrate, sticks it in his pocket and proceeds down the fairway.

Please replace paragraph [0035] with the following amended paragraph:

Meanwhile, the remote record request is directed via the internet, wireless network or some other means **56** to the secure I/O port **58** in satellite broadcast center **12** (step **82**). SBC **12** receives the remote record request **57** (step **84**). Validation switch **60** confirms that our subscriber is in fact a subscriber, confirms that the selected tennis program does not exceed any rating limits but rejects the request because the "tennis package" is not part of the subscriber's current package and the tennis program under the trademark WIMBLEDON ~~Wimbledon® Finals~~ have a premium charge of $34.95, which is above the one-time billing limit. The broadcast center formulates a verification response that (a) rejects the request, (b) indicates why the request was rejected, e.g. outside package and exceeds billing limit and (c) prompts the subscriber to sign up for the required package and increase the billing limit (step **86**). This response is relayed back to the subscriber in near real-time over the same or different wireless connection to the subscriber's wireless PDA causing it to vibrate in the middle of the subscriber's backswing.

Please replace paragraph [37] with the following amended paragraph:

Once validated, the programming request (program code), any override information and the subscriber ID (CAM ID, IRD ID or subscriber ID) are directed to bridge router **32**, which creates an MPT packet **34** (figure 5) (step **92**) with a unique packet ID number for each recording request. The uplink system **36** inserts the MPT packet into a transport packet **94** as shown in figure 5, which, in turn, is inserted into the broadcast chain along with the audio, video and CA transport packets for delivery to the subscriber sites (step **96**). The transport packet includes a payload **98**, e.g. the MPT packet **34**, and a header **100** that specifies the payload is an MPT packet including a subscriber ID **99** and a program code **101**. Since it is not

possible to know what transponder the subscriber's IRD is currently tuned, the transport packet is broadcast out on all transponders in the satellite to ensure delivery (step **102**). This is necessary to prevent any service or recording interruptions in case the subscriber IRD is already in the process of recording an event. The remote record request can be cycled into the broadcast several times in a given duration to help assure receipt in case of signal interruption, such as rain fade. Since the MPT packet has a unique ID, and the IRD validates the MPT packet, the IRD will ignore all subsequent MPT packets with the same ID.

Please replace paragraph [38] with the following amended paragraph:

Upon receipt of a transport packet carrying an MPT packet **34** with a remote record request, the IRD **42** determines that it is an MPT packet, decodes the packet and compares the subscriber ID in the packet to similar ID information resident in the IRD to determine whether the remote record request is directed to that subscriber site (step **103**). Once the IRD confirms that the requesting subscriber and the subscriber IRD match, the IRD validates the programming request (step **104**). In no particular order, the IRD validates the program code, revalidates that the requested program is included in the subscriber's package (optional), revalidates that the request does not exceed the billing limit (optional), validates that the request does not conflict with a pre-existing request and validates that the DVR has enough memory to store the programming (step 106).

Please replace paragraph [39] with the following amended paragraph:

In our example, the program number 123456 is a valid number, the premium fee of $39.95 is less than the newly updated one-time billing limit of $50 and tennis package (Service Code code 49) is included in the newly updated service package. However, the request to record from 1-4 pm on Sunday unfortunately conflicts with a pre-existing request to record from 3-5 pm on Sunday and the DVR is running out of memory, only 300 Mb left and 1 Gb required for the recording as illustrated in figure 6a. Depending upon the override status of the current request, the IRD will either override the earlier request and delete old or low priority programming from memory to process the current request or will send a "request unsuccessful" message back to the subscriber, suitably via the satellite broadcast center, asking him to make an override decision (step **108**). In his hurry our subscriber had not checked the override box, so a message is sent in near real-time to the subscriber's wireless

PDA causing it to vibrate once again. While waiting his turn to putt, our subscriber answers the PDA, clicks the message icon, reads the message indicating a "programming conflict" and "low memory", quickly clicks "override" and sends the message as shown in figure 4d (step **110,** figure 3b).

Please replace paragraph [0040] with the following amended paragraph:

The override message is directed to the I/O port **58**, validated, formatted into an MPT packet **34**, inserted into a transport packet and uplinked into the broadcast stream (step **112**). The IRD downloads the transport packet, decodes the MPT packet, validates the subscriber, processes the override request by deleting the earlier request and deleting the oldest or lowest priority programming currently saved on the DVR and programs the DVR to record the ~~Wimbledon®~~ tennis program under trademark WIMBLEDON (step **114**). As shown in figure 6b, the necessary overrides have been set. The IRD then issues a "request valid & executed" message, which is routed to the subscriber (step **116**). Now on the 5th tee, the subscriber answers his PDA, clicks the message icon and is relieved to see verification, as shown in figure 4e, that the ~~Wimbledon®~~ tennis match under trademark WIMBLEDON is being recorded on time as promised (step **118**). The verification may also provide other account information such as current billing, other record requests, memory left, executed overrides, etc.